

Trades Council, and to congratulate her for becoming an International Representative with Operative Plasterers' and Cement Masons' International Association (OPCMIA). Having served as the Business Manager and Financial Secretary for the Greater Kansas City Building and Trades Council since 2012, Alise has used her influence to make the construction industry more welcoming to women and minorities while safeguarding the interests of over 25,000 union members throughout the Kansas City metropolitan area. As Alise prepares to assume responsibilities in her new position, let us take a moment to reflect on her illustrious career.

In 1980, following her decision to drop out of college, Alise heard an advertisement on the radio aimed at recruiting more women and minorities into the construction industry. Selected for a program funded by the federal government as part of an effort to diversify the trades, Alise completed a three-month pre-apprenticeship with the Kansas City Cement Masons' Local Union 518. From there, Alise became a Concrete Finisher Apprentice with Local Union 518, marking the beginning of a thirteen-year career working in the trade. Spending time at her family's firm, JJ Martiny Concrete Co. Inc., Alise became an expert decorative concrete finisher and a role model for other women pursuing jobs in the construction industry.

From 1993 until 1999, Alise served as the Apprenticeship Coordinator for the Kansas City Cement Masons before becoming Local No. 518's Business Agent. In 2012, Alise made history as the first woman ever elected to serve as the Business Manager and Financial Secretary for the Greater Kansas City Building and Construction Trades Council, which represents sixteen construction trades in the Greater Kansas City area. Earning the trust and support of thousands of union workers, Alise was re-elected to this position multiple times. In a field dominated by men, Alise advocated endlessly for the recruitment of women and minorities into the construction trades, using her platform to draw attention to the high wages and strong benefits that unionized workers have fought to secure. Hoping to empower other women through jobs in the construction industry, Alise developed the Mentoring a Girl in Construction (MAGIC) program sponsored by the National Association of Women in Construction.

Thankfully, the profound contributions that Alise has made to the labor movement have not gone unrecognized. Last year, Alise was honored with the first ever Trades Women Build Nations Lifetime Achievement Award from the North American's Building Trades Union (NABTU) during a presentation at that year's Trade Women Build Nations Conference. Alise proudly represented the Cement Masons as a Jobs Corps Instructor, and has achieved 25 year, 30 year, and 40 year milestones within the OPCMIA. Always committed to giving back to the union that offered her an apprenticeship, Alise has served Local Union 518 as an Executive Board Member, Vice President, and President. In each position, Alise has worked to ensure that other women are welcomed into the construction industry and properly recognized for their skills and contributions.

Alise has earned an Associate of Arts degree in Labor Studies from Ivy Tech Community College, has worked as a journey person

on thousands of jobsites, and donates her time to several community organizations, including the Kansas City, Missouri Construction Workforce Board, the Kansas Apprenticeship Council, the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City's Economic Advisory Council, the Blue Cross Blue Shield of Kansas City board of directors, the Kansas City, Kansas Chamber of Commerce President's Downtown Advisory Council, and the Labor-Management Council, where she served as Board Secretary for over a decade. As I read over this list, it becomes apparent that Alise's contributions to the construction industry, the labor movement, and the Greater Kansas City area cannot be overstated.

Now, Alise Martiny is preparing to lead her union on the global stage. As an International Representative with Operative Plasterers' and Cement Masons' International Association, I have no doubt that Alise will continue the tradition of excellence that she established so early in her career. Alise will continue opening doors for others, advancing the interests of workers in the trades, and bringing pride to all who know her. Mr. Speaker, please join me in applauding Alise Martiny for all the good work she has done, and all the good work she will do.

REMEMBERING JAMES MILROY
"JIM" BROWN

HON. STEVE COHEN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 17, 2023

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a great civic-minded American hero and Marine Corps veteran, James Milroy "Jim" Brown, who passed earlier this month at the age of 92. Mr. Brown joined the Marines in Charleston, West Virginia, shortly after graduating from Clay County High School. While in the Marine Corps, he served as a machine-gunner in the Korean War, at the Pusan Perimeter, Inchon Landing, Wonsan Landing, the Chosin Reservoir and Hanhung in North Korea. Mr. Brown received the Purple Heart with Gold Star, Korean Service Medal with three Gold Stars, the Presidential Unit Citation with two Bronze Stars and the Combat Action Ribbon with three Gold Stars for his actions in the Korean War and often spoke of his participation in the historic Battle of the Chosin Reservoir during the strategic retreat of United Nations forces from North Korea.

Mr. Brown regularly attended funerals for veterans in his full military uniform, honoring the fallen servicemen for their service, which was greatly appreciated by their families and friends. It was his way of giving back to his fellow veterans and the community.

After Korea, he was transferred to Marine Corps Aviation and trained as an Aviation Structural Mechanic in Millington, Tennessee. After that training, he served as an instructor in that school from 1951 to 1955. Mr. Brown served with the 1st Marine Aircraft Wing in Okinawa, Japan, until 1956 and returned to Millington as an Instructor. In 1960, he was transferred to Beaufort, South Carolina, where he served until 1964. From 1964 to 1967 Mr. Brown was the Curriculum Supervisor in Millington. Mr. Brown served briefly in the Republic of Vietnam as the Wing Analyst Chief at

the DaNang Air Base before returning to Millington. He retired from the Marines Corps as a Master Sergeant in August of 1970.

In 1967 Mr. Brown graduated from Memphis State University with a B.S. degree in Secondary Education. He earned his Master's Degree in Educational Administration and completed all the course work for his Doctorate in Education from the University of Memphis.

From 1970 to 1995 he served as an educator with Memphis City Schools, including as a Vocational Teacher, Administrator, and Vocational Evaluator. From 1995 to 2001 Mr. Brown served as a Commissioner of the Board of Education, Memphis City Schools. He was elected as Vice President in 1998 and President in 1999.

In addition to his civic and educational activities, Mr. Brown was a member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Fleet Reserve Association, Marine Corps League, Optimist Club, Exchange Club, the Raleigh Masonic Lodge, and Memphians for America, an employer support organization for the Guard and Reserve.

America has lost a steady and reserved public servant and a grateful Nation takes note. I extend my condolences to his wife, Betty Sue; his sons, his grandchildren, his siblings, and his many friends and admirers.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY
OF JOSIE BROWN CHILDS

HON. JONATHAN L. JACKSON

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 17, 2023

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Josie Brown Childs, a true pioneer and civil rights champion who passed away on February 13, 2023, at the age of 96. She left an indelible mark on Chicago and beyond.

Childs began her career in public service in the 1950s, working for the City of Chicago and later as an events coordinator under Colonel Jack Riley. She went on to serve Mayor Harold Washington as an aide, working on his mayoral campaigns and at City Hall in the Special Events and Cultural Affairs departments from 1983 to 1990.

One of Childs' most significant achievements was founding the Mayor Harold Washington Legacy Committee in 2013, dedicated to preserving Washington's legacy through voter registration initiatives, an annual wreathlaying ceremony at his Oak Woods Cemetery tomb, and a Roosevelt University scholarship. Her tireless efforts to ensure the continued legacy of Chicago's first African American mayor were truly remarkable and helped to make a lasting impact on the city.

Childs dedicated her life to public service and promoting African American cultural and historical awareness. She worked with The Chicago Urban League, the NAACP, Planned Parenthood, Rainbow PUSH, and many other organizations to improve the lives of others and advance the cause of civil rights.

Her life and legacy will continue to inspire future generations to pursue their dreams and positively impact their communities. We owe it to her memory to continue fighting for justice and equality. On behalf of the people of Illinois' First Congressional District, I offer my